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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT DESIGNATED OFFICE (DO/US)
(National Phase of International App.: PCT/DE01/02486, W/O 02/04147 A1)

In re the
application of: **Christian BOEHNKE**

International Application No.: **PCT/DE01/02486**

International Filing Date: **30 June 2001**

U.S. Serial No.: **Not Yet Assigned**

Filed: **Herewith**

For: **DEVICE FOR PRODUCING CASTINGS IN
WHICH THE WALL OF THE DEVICE MOVES
INTO THE MOLD (AMENDED)**

Attorney Docket No.: **HHI-039US**

BOX PCT
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to examination of the above-referenced patent application, please amend the application as follows.

In the Specification:

Page 1, line 1, please replace the present title "Device For Producing Castings That Comprises A Wall Which Can Be Guided Into The Casting Mold" with the new title -- DEVICE FOR PRODUCING CASTINGS IN WHICH THE WALL OF THE DEVICE MOVES INTO THE MOLD --.

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Page 1, line 3, after the title, insert the following "Background of the Invention".

Page 1, line 4, please delete "according to the preamble of claim 1", and insert after device -- for producing castings--.

Page 1, lines 6-7, please change "a device of this type according to the species" to -- a conventional device--.

Page 1, line 28, insert the following title: "**Summary of the Invention**".

Page 1, lines 29-30, please delete "according to the species".

Page 1, lines 33-34, please delete the paragraph.

Page 3, line 6, insert the following title: "**Brief Description of the Drawings**".

Page 3, line 9, please insert the following title: "**Description of Illustrated Embodiment**".

In the Claims

Please amend claims 1-3 as follows:

1. Device for producing castings out of a fusible or dispersible base material, comprising an injection unit from which the at least partially liquefied material can be injected into a mold, wherein the injection unit has an inlet port for feeding the material, and wherein the injection unit has a chamber with two movable walls which are adapted to move either together in the same direction or in opposite directions so to vary a volume of the chamber, and wherein the two walls forms the cavity,
wherein one of the two walls is movable into the mold.

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2. Device according to claim 1, wherein the wall which is movable into the mold is configured as a piston which is supported within a tubular chamber wall so as to be longitudinally movable or is supported so as to be movable toward the chamber to perform a sealing function, and wherein the wall is movable together with a movable mold section of the mold.
3. Device according to claim 1, wherein the wall which is movable into mold is configured to partially determine the surface shape of the casting.

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REMARKS

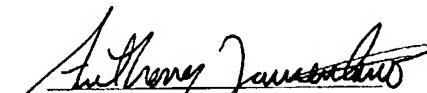
Applicants amend the specification to address minor formal matters, such as introducing appropriate section headers. Applicants also amend the claims to provide proper antecedent basis, and to address other matters of form. The foregoing amendments introduce no new matter and are not related to issues of patentability.

Entry of the foregoing Preliminary Amendment is in order and requested.

If there are any questions regarding the proposed amendments to the application, we invite the Examiner to call Applicants' representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: March 7, 2002

Version With Markings To Show Changes Made

In the Specification

Page 1, line 3:

The invention relates to a device ~~according to the preamble of claim 1 for~~
producing castings.

Page 1, lines 6-7:

European Patent 1 046 444 A1 discloses a conventional device of this type
according to the species. Three pistons are used to create a variable-volume chamber for
the injection material. In it, two pistons are axially movable within a tubular cavity, and
a third piston can be moved perpendicularly to the longitudinal axis of the chamber
between the two above-mentioned pistons so as to convey the material into the mold
cavity. The requirement here is that there be a precise seal between the three pistons
relative to one another and to the chamber. Because of the space requirement and the
demands on the seal, the device according to the species is very expensive to produce.

Page 1, lines 29-30:

The goal of the present invention is to improve a device ~~according to the species~~
so that it is as efficient as possible, has compact dimensions, and can be operated as
inexpensively as possible.

In the Claims

Please amend claims 1-3.

1. Device for producing castings out of a fusible or dispersible base material,
comprising including an injection unit from which the at least partially liquefied material
can be injected into a mold, wherein the injection unit has an inlet port for feeding the
material, and wherein the injection unit has a chamber with two movable walls which

~~may as desired be moved are adapted to move either together in the same direction or in opposite directions so to vary a volume that the cavity of the chamber may be varied by volume as desired and/or be displaceable, and wherein one of the two walls forming a section of the wall delimiting the mold forms the cavity (9),~~

~~characterized in that the two walls each form a part of the walls delimiting the mold cavity (9), wherein one of the two walls being is movable into the mold (2).~~

2. Device according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the wall which is movable into the mold (2) is ~~designed configured~~ as a piston (8) which is supported within a tubular chamber wall so as to be longitudinally movable or is supported so as to be movable toward ~~the~~ chamber (5) to perform a sealing function, and ~~wherein the that~~ this wall is movable together with a movable mold section (11) of the mold (2).

3. Device according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the wall which is movable into mold (2) is ~~designed configured~~ to partially determine the surface shape of the casting.